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David Simpson
Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington DC 20554

Re: PS Docket No. 09-14, SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS ON STATE COLLECTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF 911 AND ENHANCED 911 FEES AND CHARGES.

Mr. Simpson:

The Washington State APCO & NENA Chapter offer the following comments in response to the Commission's seventh annual report to Congress on collection and distribution of 911 fees and charges.

The annual report held some promising data and prompted continuing concerns for the Washington APCO/NENA Chapter. The Chapter is encouraged by the Washington State E911 Office beginning efforts in 2014 toward cyber security for the state-wide ESInet. These efforts are currently nearing actionable recommendations as the State recently issued an RFP for the second generation ESInet. As the FCC has noted, cyber vulnerability is a real and present danger that must be addressed in the NG911 environment.

We are, however, still concerned about the use of 911 funds for purposes other than 911 and are particularly concerned that the seventh annual report to Congress does not include Washington State as a state that diverted or transferred 911 funds for other purposes. According to a report given to the Washington State House of Representatives Public Safety Committee on November 20, 2015 by the State E911 Advisory Committee, 911 funds were diverted or transferred for purposes other than 911 during the reporting period. The following is a table excerpted from the presentation:

Legislative appropriations of the State E911 Fund for non-E911 requirements.

Examples:

- State Fiscal Year 2013-15 biennium
 - \$10,842,000 to the Washington Military Department Operating Budget – replaced equivalent GF-S with dedicated State E911 Account Funding
 - \$3,867,000 to the Washington State Patrol – Mobile Office Platform
 - \$2,000,000 to the Department of Corrections – Radio Infrastructure Upgrade
- State Fiscal Year 2015-17 biennium

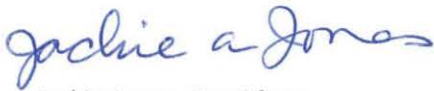
- \$8,606,000 – to the Washington Military Department Operating Budget - replaced equivalent GF-S with dedicated State E911 Account Funding
- \$3,230,000 to the Washington State Patrol –Criminal History Fingerprint System
- \$ 633,000 for state government policy compensation changes
- \$ 130,000 for a King County cardiac arrest response pilot project

(2015 Washington State NG911 Progress Report From The State E9-1-1 Advisory Committee To The:
Washington State House of Representatives, Public Safety Committee, November 20, 2015)

The Chapter's concerns are two-fold; first, the 911 funds are clearly being used for purposes other than 911; and, second, the State's reporting does not follow the requested information – "[The FCC] also requests information on what uses are deemed permissible under the statute and how such uses support 911 or E911 service." Eight states did follow the request and reported that they used 911 funds to support programs other than 911 during the reporting period. Five of those states indicated the diverted/transferred funds were purposed for public safety or emergency response programs. We believe the request for information was clearly stated and that Washington State did not accurately reflect the uses of 911 funds during the reporting period.

It is our intention to be a part of the solution in the 911 funds utilization question. We are hopeful that reports such as this one will inform decision makers of the importance of 911 funding dedication to 911 purposes.

Respectfully,



Jackie Jones, President
Washington State Chapter APCO – NENA